BENEFITS OF VIVISECTION

Dr. Robert T. Morris' Letter to Senator McMillan.

Many Advantages to Be Derived From Ante-Mortem Experimentation With Animals—How the "Aristol Film" Method of Successfully Treating Peritonitis Was Developed

The subject of anti-vivisection is about to be considered by the Senate District Committee, and Chairman McMillan has been the recipient of many letters upon both sides of the subject. One of the most interesting, as well as instructive, documents yet submitted for the consideration of the committee is one from Dr. Robert T. Morris, professor of surgery in the New York Post-Graduate Hospital, one of the most distinguished surgeons in this country, discouraging the passage of an anti-vivisection law.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, on the other hand, is urging the passage of such a law for the District of Columbia and the Territories, and hope in the event of its passage to be able to get a similar law enacted by the various State Legislatures.

Dr. Morris, in his communication to the committee, declares that while he is a great lover of animals he yet believes that advantages of inestimable value have resulted to the human race through the practice of animal vivisection. Enclosed with his letter to Senator McMillan was a report in pamphlet form on the advances in medical science that have been made by well-known members of the medical profession through the aid of animal experimentation. Of that part of his own work which has been published in medical journals Dr. Morris says:

"Peritonitis usually leaves in its train adhesions of the abdominal organs which cause lifelong discomfort and invalidism for the patient. Such adhesions commonly cause also the death of the patient. Surgeons have sought in many ways to find relief for their patients with peritoneal adhesions, and with varying degrees of success—generally with failure. I experimented with rabbits and developed a plan of procedure known as 'the aristol film method,' that has been accepted as successful by surgeons in different parts of the world. To have experimented in this way upon human beings would have been heartless and unsatisfactory, because it was necessary to correct several errors in theory, and this I was enabled to do readily by chloroforming and examining the rabbits at such steps in the experiment as seemed desirable. The outcome of my experimentation has been the direct means of avoiding unsatisfactory experimentation upon thousands of human beings, and it has been the direct means of saving life and preventing suffering on the part of such human beings.

"Surgeons frequently have to operate upon appendicitis patients when infection has advanced to such a stage that it is necessary to apply a drainage device. The drainage device necessitates leaving a weak point in the structures of the abdominal cell. Hernia develops at such weak points. In experimenting upon dogs and rabbits I was enabled to devise a plan of procedure which successfully obviates the danger of hernia. My plan of suturing the caecum of the weak point in the abdominal wall in patients would not have received the support of surgeons, because it was believed that dangerous angulation of the bowel would occur at such sutured points. My experiments with dogs and rabbits disproved the idea that angulation of bowel would occur, provided that the work was done in a certain way, and this has allowed surgeons to give their patients the benefit of a procedure which obviates much human misery. The method has been widely adopted.

"A method for the removal of dead bone by the application of dilute mineral acids has been advocated from time to time by various surgeons, but, for an unknown reason, the treatment was not very successful. By experimenting upon the carapace of a living turtle I found a cause for the failures and added a plan of procedure of which surgeons have been glad to avail themselves in the interest of their patients. Without such animal experimentation the cause of failure would probably have remained undiscovered.

"After certain abdominal operations surgeons have commonly applied abdominal supporters that were a source of much discomfort for their patients. By experimenting upon rabbits I determined that such supporters could be discarded. The fact would have been discovered eventually in our work upon patients, but my experiment gave an early decision in the matter, and patients who would have suffered discomfort are now relieved as a result of facts brought out by the experiments.

"Surgeons discovered that they were aided in a part of their work in the abdominal cavity by touching a part of the bowel with a salt which excited active movement of the muscular coat of the bowel. This indicated the direction of any given loop of bowel. By experimenting with rabbits for the simple purpose of confirming the widely published reports upon the desirability of this step in progress, I discovered that it was accompanied by a grave danger known as the production of intussusception. By publishing the report upon my discovery surgeons were enabled to avoid subjecting their patients to the grave danger. Incidentally my experiment demonstrated the mechanism of intussusception. This had been the subject of much discussion in the medical profession, but my experiment can now be done as an object lesson in the presence of an audience.

"Surgeons are experimenting upon patients to discover the best way for curing tuberculosis of the peritoneum. I experimented upon rabbits and developed information which is of much value in the understanding of the subject.

"These experiments above noted have been directly of benefit in relieving human suffering. In addition, I have performed many other experiments that gave valuable negative testimony."

Dr. Morris concludes his letter as follows:

"As a lover of animals and as a member of a humane profession I have taken as much care to avoid suffering upon the part of the animals as I would be expected to take. My experiments, like those of vivisectors of my acquaintances, have had for their object the single purpose of benefiting humanity. My own work demonstrates only a trifling proportion of the advance that is annually made by surgeons in various parts of the world through animal experimentation. Unfortunately, the men who are doing advance work in the interests of science and humanity usually have such contempt for the methods of the uninformed anti-vivisectionists that they will not even deign to make a statement of their side of the case, and legislative committees are apt to be influenced by the emotional, well-meaning people who make strenuous effort to convince committees along the lines in which they themselves have been misinformed. The fact that there are physicians among the anti-vivisectionists is evidence simply of the fact that such physicians have been too much interested in other matters to give attention to the proper acquirement of knowledge upon this subject."

SOON TO BE TABULATED.

The Work of Enumeration in Cuba and Porto Rico Finished.

The tabulation of the census of Cuba and Porto Rico will begin next week. The work will be done by a large force under the direction of Gen. Joseph P. Sanger, of the War Department, who has just returned from Porto Rico. General Sanger traveled all over Cuba and Porto Rico and made a thorough inspection of the work done by the supervisors and enumerators employed in taking the census. The work is said to have been thoroughly done and the Cubans and Porto Ricans to have expressed themselves as well satisfied with the results. It is said to have been the first accurate census ever taken of the islands.

The schedules of Cuba are en route to this city under charge of Victor H. Olmsted, while Harrison Dingman is bringing the schedules of Porto Rico. Both schedules are expected to arrive by the early part of next week. The schedules adopted by the War Department embrace population, agriculture, and education. Wealth and vital statistics and similar matters were not touched by the enumerators because of the lack of facts bearing on the subjects. It was found that the statements made by the natives were widely different, and what records were found could not be relied upon.

Not enough of the schedules have been gone over to form an accurate forecast of the population of the islands, but it is stated that since the last census in 1887 the population of Cuba has decreased, while that of Porto Rico has increased.

In his travels over Cuba General Sanger is said to have inspected all the schools and prisons, and to have had conferences with prominent Cubans and to have studied closely the judicial system in vogue in the island, and to have discussed with the judges questions of reforms and improvements to be made in the courts in order that business may be facilitated and the dockets of the courts, which are all overcrowded, may be cleared as soon as possible.

It is said that in all Cuba there are only six criminal courts, where persons charged with crime are tried. There is a criminal court in each of the six provinces, and before these courts come every class of crime, from petit larceny to murder. The result is that the courts are away behind in their work, and the jails and prisons are crowded with persons awaiting trial. Gen. Leonard Wood, it is said, has released a large number of persons who had been in jail for months without ever having been given a hearing, and the conditions of the jails and prisons are being improved, but they are far from what they ought to be, and there is much suffering among those confined in the jails and unable to get bail or to get their cases before the courts.

In taking the census, it is said, that it developed that a large majority of the Cubans are opposed to the sovereignty of this country over the island, and are anxious to govern themselves. Many enquiries were made by the supervisors and enumerators among the best class of Cubans, and it is said that with few exceptions the Cubans favored self-government. As to their ability to establish and maintain a stable government, it is believed by the enumerators that with a little experience in local government the Cubans will soon have a government that will compare favorably with that of this country. It is said that under the military government which has prevailed in the island, the Cubans have not been given enough latitude to show whether they are fit for self-government. It is believed that General Wood will be instructed to be more lenient in dealing with the Cubans in matters relating to civil government, and that by next April, the time set for turning the island over to the natives, they will have become fairly well qualified to manage their own affairs. Little fear is expressed by the census enumerators of negro domination in Cuba, and it is believed that the census will show fewer negroes in the island than there is popularly supposed to be, and even if all of them are given suffrage, without regard to educational qualifications, it is said that the white so far outnumber them that the negroes will never be able to control the elections to any great extent.

The census will also show that thousands of Cubans are living on small islands, and in other out-of-the-way places which were supposed to have been uninhabited. They took refuge there during the long wars with Spain, and continue to reside there.

GRIGGS FAVORS RAILROADS.

A Decision Anent Taxing Export Bills of Lading and Receipts.

NEW YORK, JAN. 7.—Collector Treat received yesterday from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue a copy of Attorney General Grigg's opinion in regard to the taxability of export bills of lading or receipts issued by carriers, covering goods exported from the United States to Canada or Mexico in railroad cars. He holds that they are liable to a 1-cent stamp, and not a 10-cent stamp, as contended by the Internal Revenue Department. The controversy which gave rise to this decision began in Collector Treat's district. Collector Treat said yesterday afternoon:

"This question arose last April. Complaint was made that railroads doing a Canadian trade were not affixing a 10-cent stamp upon their bills of lading and receipts for merchandise received for transportation to Canada. The Internal Revenue Department insisted that the railroads should comply with its ruling in regard to this point. The railroads refused, with a single exception, to abide by this interpretation of the act. A hearing was given the attorneys of the Trunk Railroad Association last September by Commissioner Wilson. At this hearing the attorneys of the railroads claimed that the law was unconstitutional because it imposed an export tax upon goods shipped from the several States which was against the rights of States as granted by the Contitution. They also claimed that it was an unjust discrimination against railroads, as it permitted vessels and steamboats plying between the United States and British North America and Mexico to give bills of lading bearing a 1-cent stamp only, while railroads doing an inland business at these points were required to affix a 10-cent stamp.

"The attorneys of the Internal Revenue Department insisted there was no more discrimination in this respect than in other features of the revenue act, when manufacturers and merchants were not obliged to pay a special tax on their capital, as bankers do. I was then instructed to make an assessment against the railroads for arrears and request them to submit an accounting of the stamp tax due under oath. The attorneys of the railroads appealed from this assessment and requested that the matter be referred to the Attorney General for his decision. The result is a ruling in favor of the railroads. The loss to the Government of this expected revenue will probably amount to a great many thousand dollars per annum. The railroads were vigorous in their contest, as they could not collect the arrears from the shippers."

ELOPED FROM A COURTROOM.

A Richmond Girl and Her Alleged Abductor Are Missing.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 7.—Caarles Loth, aged twenty-six, was recently sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary for the abduction of fifteen-year-old Olivia B. Newton. A new trial was granted, and at the hearing yesterday the girl testified in favor of Loth, evidently having made up. While the young woman's parents were absorbed in the question of releasing Loth on bail Olivia stole out of the court room and Loth soon joined her. Their absence surprised the parents of the girl and the court. The couple took the train for Weldon and will, it is believed, return man and wife. The girl is related to the family of the late Bishop John B. Newton, of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

HE WISHED TO INTERRUPT

David Keane's Attempt to Be Heard in the Godfrey Warner Suit.

His Name Had Been Erased as an Attorney of Record in the Case, But He Insistently Demands an Opportunity to Explain Certain Statements Supposed to Refer to Him.

David Keane, an attorney-at-law, of New York city, who formerly represented the complainant in the suit of Lily Allys Godfrey, of New York, against Brainard H. Warner and others, of this city, created a sensation in the Court of Appeals on Friday last at the close of the argument in the case, which had been on hearing in that court for some days.

Keane's name had been stricken from the record as an attorney in the cause, but for some reason not clearly brought he desired a hearing in the court before the case closed. Chief Justice Alvey declined to hear Mr. Keane, but the latter persisted in being heard, because he said statements made during the hearing of the case were supposed to refer to him. At this point J. J. Darlington, who represented the defendants, stated that the case was closed and it was not necessary that anything further should be said. This, however, did not suppress Mr. Keane, who still insisted on being heard. Arthur A. Birney, who represented Miss Godfrey, then objected in an emphatic manner to anything more being said on the subject. This objection, coming as it did from an attorney who represented Mr. Keane's former client, created a stir in the courtroom.

Exactly what Mr. Keane would have said had he been allowed to make a statement, is not known, but it is believed that he took exception to references made in the brief of Messrs. Darlington and Mattingly, representing the defendants, to the character of and manner of introduction of certain testimony on the part of the complainant when represented by Keane. The evidence referred to was offered at the trial of the case before Justice Hagner in Equity Court No. 1, when Miss Godfrey was represented by Mr. Keane and Messrs. Jere M. Wilson and A. A. Hoeling, of this city. Since then Mr. Keane's connection with the case was severed, at the suggestion, it is stated, of the complainant.

In the brief prepared by the counsel for the defence, it is stated that the evidence alluded to, "both in character and in the manner of bringing it forward, is perhaps the most unique and the most amazing in the history of litigation in this jurisdiction."

The litigation is the outgrowth of a real estate deal between the complainant, Lily Allys Godfrey, and her mother, Mary A. Godfrey, on one side and Stephen A. Dutton, of New York, on the other, in which the Godfreys exchanged certain real estate in Washington for certain wharf property in New York, alleged to be owned by Dutton. It afterward developed that the property claimed by Dutton, and deeded to the complainant and her mother, did not belong to him, and Dutton was proceeded against criminally, being convicted and sentenced to six years' imprisonment in the penitentiary in New York, which sentence he is now serving.

In the present suit an attempt was made on behalf of the complainant to prove that B. H. Warner, who purchased part of the Godfrey property from Dutton, was in collusion with the latter in the swindling transaction. This it was attempted to show by the fact that he purchased the property for a much smaller price than that for which he had once held it for sale. To show this the complainant endeavored to prove that on more than one occasion Mr. Warner was seen in Dutton's office in New York, about the time the real estate deal was made with the complainant and her mother.

The first step in adducing testimony on this point, it is stated in the brief of the defence, was a motion asking the court to allow the complainant to take evidence in New York by deposition, stating that if the names of the witnesses were known to the defendants they would be tampered with and intimidated. The motion was refused by the court, and the witnesses, it is stated, were produced at the trial without notice to the defence.

The testimony thus produced is that of witnesses, most of them alleged criminals and parties of ill repute, who testified that they saw Mr. Warner in Dutton's office, or in his company, in New York at divers times.

One of these witnesses, John Staudinger, according to a brief filed in the case by the attorneys for the defence, testified "That he was office boy in the office of Henry Daley, Jr., a New York lawyer, who had transacted business for Dutton; that, on March 18, the complainant's solicitor called on him at his house and asked him to recognize a photograph, which he showed him, as that of B. H. Warner; that the solicitor on that occasion, requested him to examine the call book at Daley's office, giving him $5 'for expenses,' though the witness did not know what the $5 was given him for; that on the call book under the date of August 30, and under that of September 18 or 19, 1894, he found the entry 'S. A. Dutton and friend;' that on March 21, having been provided with a railroad ticket by the solicitor, and an additional $5 he came on to Washington, testified he had seen Warner in Daley's office on August 30, and on September 18 or 19, but swearing he had no means of fixing those dates."

Further, the brief declares that "In the office of Mr. Hand, in New York, Staudinger was asked, in Hand's presence, whether he had not seen Warner in Daley's office with Dutton, and he answered, 'What is the use of asking me, after you know what I testified in Washington?'

"Anthony Comstock, John W. Rockwell, William F. Henessy, and Louis F. Dittman all testified that Staudinger admitted to them complainant's solicitor had showed him the photograph, asking if he knew the man, to which he had replied that he did not; that the solicitor then asked him 'What would it cost to have you know him?' to which he replied, 'That depends;' that he then came on to Washington and testified that he had seen Mr. Warner in Daley's office with Dutton a dozen times, although he never had seen him in New York, or anywhere, before; that, after his deposition was concluded, the solicitor complimented him upon being a 'star witness,' and that, before testifying, he had been instructed that if asked any questions he did not want to answer, he should say he did not remember, and that he signed a written statement to this effect in Mr. Comstock's presence, his object being to find employment to commit perjury in a supposititious divorce case in which Hennessy and Dittman, who were detectives, had led him to believe that Mr. Rockwell, a prominent business man, and Mr. Comstock were interested."

On the occasions referred to by the complainants, at which it was attempted to prove that Mr. Warner was in New York in company with Dutton, it was shown by several disinterested and unimpeachable witnesses that he was in Magnolia, Mass., a place too far distant to make a trip to New York and return the same day.

The testimony on this point was so conclusive that Justice Hagner, in his decision, stated that "beyond doubt, the entire testimony adduced in behalf of the complainant, designed to show that Warner was ever in the company of Stephen A. Dutton, on either of the occasions as described, is absolutely untrue, and that by far the greater part of it consists of unfounded falsehoods, uttered from bad motives, and attempted to be sustained by deliberate perjury."

THE MOLINEUX TRIAL.

The Prosecution Will Probably Close Its Case This Week.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Assistant District Attorney Osborne said today that as far as he knew no unexpected witnesses would be introduced in the Molineux trial during the next few days. Henceforth, he added, the prosecution will present its evidence more rapidly, and, barring unforeseen delays, there is a possibility of their being able to turn the case over to the defence by the first of next week.

One of the first witnesses to be called tomorrow will be Joseph Koch, the private letter-box man at 1620 Broadway, who will identify Molineux as the man who hired a letter box under the name of H. Cornish. Koch was in court on Friday, prepared to go on the stand, but Assistant District Attorney Osborne, after a conference with him, decided not to call him until tomorrow.

None of the handwriting experts will be examined tomorrow, but before the case of the prosecution is finally presented several experts, as well as paying tellers and bankers, will testify that the handwriting exhibits were all written by the same hand. The experts will not go into lengthy statements. The prosecution will content itself with simply asking these witnesses to express their opinion concerning the handwriting.

Nor will the defence be permitted, Mr. Osborne said yesterday, to make an exhaustive cross-examination of these experts, the idea being to expedite the winding up of the State's case as speedily as possible. Mr. Osborne stated yesterday that he expected to complete his presentation within three or four days after tomorrow. He hoped that no longer time would be required.

Messrs. Weeks and Battle are prepared to combat with experts the expert testimony given by the State's witnesses, and the lawyers will seek to establish that another person than their client could have written the superscription on the poison package. It is estimated that two weeks only will be needed in which to present the full and complete case of the defence. Then will come the summing up, which will require two days, when the great case will go to the jury.

The prosecution is not pleased over the testimony of Dr. Beaman Douglas, who testified on the stand that Barnet died of diphtheria, and it will endeavor to show by a letter written by Dr. Douglas to the board of health that Barnet did not die of that malady.

Charles D. Allen, the young man who testified on the stand Friday that he acted as private secretary for Molineux and wrote certain letters for him, one of which was recently found in the office of Koch, the letter-box man, called at the office of the district attorney yesterday. He was closeted with Mr. Osborne for upward of half an hour.

There he requested to see some of the specimens of handwriting which figure in the case. On examining them he said that he had never before discovered such similarities in Molineux's handwriting and the disputed handwriting. He seemed surprised over the revelation.

ASSISTING YALE STUDENTS.

A Plan to Aid Needy Men to Obtain Education.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 7.—The faculty of the Yale Divinity School has made public a scheme for rendering pecuniary aid to needy students in accordance with the policy outlined by President A. T. Hadley in his inaugural address, and in accordance also with the expressed wish of the students in mass meeting a month or two ago.

The scheme recites the usual number of scholarships which will be awarded for services rendered in a manner to be determined by the faculty; service in the departments of the seminary, in pastoral work in the city's hospitals, Sunday schools, and churches.

The plan proposed takes the aid offered by the funds of the institution away from the realm of the usual methods of extending such help, and makes it indistinctly either a reward for meritorious and distinguishing work in scholarship or else a return for service rendered in the line of work of the ministry under the direction and supervision of the faculty.

Arrangements are also made for loans at a nominal rate of interest. These loans can be paid in after years, but in cases of great adversity they may be canceled by the faculty. The university yesterday received the $100,000 bequeathed by the late Cornelius Vanderbilt. The money was paid in one check, and comes to the university free from all taxes. It will go into the general fund of the institution.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

In a Restaurant.

A physician puts the query: Have you never noticed in any large restaurant at lunch or dinner time the large number of hearty, vigorous old men at the tables; men whose ages run from sixty to eighty years; many of them bald and all perhaps grey, but none of them feeble or senile?

Perhaps the spectacle is so common as to have escaped your observation or comment, but nevertheless it is an object lesson which means something.

If you will notice what these hearty old fellows are eating you will observe that they are not munching bran crackers nor gingerly picking their way through a menu card of new-fangled health foods; on the contrary, they seem to prefer a juicy roast of beef, a properly turned loin of mutton, and even the deadly broiled lobster is not altogether ignored.

The point of all this is that a vigorous old age depends upon good digestion and plenty of wholesome food and not upon dieting and an endeavor to live upon bran crackers.

There is a certain class of food cranks who seem to believe that meat, coffee, and many other good things are rank poisons, but these cadaverous, sickly-looking individuals are a walking condemnation of their own theories.

The matter in a nutshell is that if the stomach secretes the natural digestive juices in sufficient quantity any wholesome food will be promptly digested; if the stomach does not do so, and certain foods cause distress, one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after each meal will remove all difficulty because they supply just what every weak stomach lacks, pepsin, hydrochloric acid, diastase, and nux.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets do not act upon the bowels, and, in fact, are not strictly a medicine, as they act somewhat entirely upon the food eaten, digesting it thoroughly, and thus gives a much-needed rest, and giving an appetite for the next meal.

Of people who travel, nine out of ten use Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, knowing them to be perfectly safe to use at any time, and also having found out by experience that they are a safeguard against indigestion in any form, and eating, as they have to, at all hours and all kinds of food, the traveling public for years have pinned their faith to Stuart's Tablets.

All druggists sell them at 50 cents for full-sized packages, and any druggist from Maine to California, if his opinion were asked, will say that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is the most popular and successful remedy for any stomach trouble.

A little booklet on stomach diseases mailed free by addressing F. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

A WONDER WITH FIGURES

Arthur Griffith Puzzles the Professors at Yale University.

The Mathematical Calculations of a Nineteen-Year-Old Youth Declared to Be Phenomenal—He Has Ways of His Own for Solving Problems—To Publish a Book of Rules.

MILFORD, Ind., Jan. 7.—Just south of this town lives John Griffith, his wife and six children—a plain Kosciusko county family, whose head has a hard time to make both ends meet. He is a farmer in the planting and reaping seasons and a stonemason the rest of the year. Yet this plain countryman is the father of Arthur E. Griffith, the greatest mathematical wonder of modern times.

This is the boy who made such a remarkable impression before the American Scientists' Society, which met in New Haven last week. He is the one who mystified the savants of Yale who tried to mystify him with their powers and roots and cubes and squares, and who did in a moment in his mind what took them hours on paper.

Arthur is nineteen years old. He was born on the farm where his father and family now live. At the age of six he went to school just as all the boys of his locality do. But impaired health forced him soon to stop schooling. Already his wonderful mathematical powers were apparent.

At the age of five the boy could count to 25,000 without any help whatever. He learned it by watching the revolutions of a buzz-saw in a mill near his home, and counting them as they plowed through the thick walnut logs that were brought there to be made into planking. One day he counted 6,000 revolutions before he stopped.

Next, he aimed at counting 50,000 without stopping, and he tried with the corn he fed to the chickens on his father's farm. The corn grains gave out when he had counted 45,601 of them. Yet with his fast increasing knowledge of arithmetic and numbers he failed woefully in grammar, history, and geography.

"They're all too slow," was his constant complaint.

But day after day his power over numbers grew wonderfully. He found out for himself and committed to memory all the prime and composite numbers up to 2,000—a wonderful task. He learned the squares and cubes of all numbers up to 1,500 and the fourth powers up to twenty. He knows the multiplication table as fast as he can say it up to 120, and says he will have it to 1,000 in a few months.

Prof. E. W. Lindley, of the Indiana University, was in Milford last summer and met Arthur. He was at once impressed with the youth's powers, and last September took him to the university at Bloomington. There some psychological experiments were made which showed conclusively that the boy was a wonder. He could solve problems in about a tenth of the operations that it required the ordinary person. For instance, he did one problem that took 336 separate operations on paper in his head in thirteen operations. At a hotel in Bloomington recently the guests began to quiz the plain country boy.

"What is 983 times 108?" asked a Chicago drummer, suddenly. "One hundred and four thousand no hundred and four," replied Arthur without a moment's delay.

After the drummer had figured it out he found that the boy was correct. Questioned as to how he did it so quickly, Arthur refused to tell, admitting, however, that he used processes for calculating rapidly which he himself had discovered. Unlike most mathematical wonders, he made no claim to any special gifts from heaven or any hypnotic powers. As a sample of how he works out his problems by wondrous methods of his own he asked a young man present when he was born.

"July 30, 1889," he replied.

"That was Friday," said young Griffith without hesitation.

Asked how he did it, he said:

"The ratio of July is 2. A quarter of 80 is 20, and, added to 80, is 100; then, add the date, gives 130. The ratio of the month added makes 132, and divided by 7 gives a remainder of 6, and, beginning with Sunday, Friday is the sixth day. You were born on Friday."

When asked why the 20 and why July's ratio was 2 he replied: "No matter." That is one of his new rules for rapid calculation. Then he added that he intended publishing a book with his formulae for rapid calculation printed therein and copyrighted, and accordingly he didn't want to make them public before. The boy can repeat the powers of 5 up to the thirty-third, and when one of the drummers doubted it Arthur said: "It is 116,415,321,826,934,814,453,125."

The thirty-third power of two he knows in the same way. Asked to multiply the two together he said, almost without hesitation, one decillion, a number too big for anyone present to grasp.

"I can do addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division in forty-four different ways," said Arthur, "and I can extract the cube root of nine place numbers and the square root of six place numbers in four seconds."

"What is the cube root of 1,367,631?" he was asked.

"Why," responded the boy, "that is 111."

Strangely enough none of the boy's brothers and sisters possess his remarkable faculty. He has a fine head and face and is now in good health. He does not care for games or sports. But he is an untiring worker, and works from sunrise to sunset on the farm with his father. His one ambition is to turn his mathematical ability to some practical account and earn a salary which will make him able to help his father support the family.

BURIED ALIVE TEN HOURS.

The Terrible Experience of Three Entombed Coal Miners.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Jan. 7.—For ten hours, every second of which was full of peril, John Llewellyn, John Lesher, and Andrew Zupkie were entombed in Buck Ridge mine Friday night.

The men were robbing pillars when a fall of coal occurred. Inside Foreman William Johnson was passing by the gangway at the time. He gave an alarm, and Superintendent P. F. Brennan was notified. When the superintendent arrived a rescuing party was formed, and amid great danger from the loose roof a large number of men started to dig for their imprisoned comrades.

After thirty feet of coal had been removed the drill pierced the last barrier and everybody was overjoyed to hear the voice of Llewellyn telling them that he and his companions were alive. An opening was made and a man crawling through found the imprisoned miners almost suffocated.

The rescued men stated that when the fall occurred they escaped by running into a heading. The rushing coal carried away their buckets of food, water, and oil, as well as most of their clothing. As long as their lamps burned the entombed men dug at the fall of coal, not knowing how thick it was. The rest of the night they were in darkness. They prayed for deliverance and were made glad Saturday morning when the sound of rescuing party drills were heard an hour before the rescue was effected.

A CARBOLIC ACID SHAMPOO.

The Fatal Mistake of a New York Hospital Nurse.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Henry Smith, in a bathtub, sat under a shower bath of carbolic acid on Friday evening. Then, shrieking in agony, blind, tearing at his head, his breast, into which the acid was eating, Smith ran, stumbling, falling, around the narrow bathroom, until he fell for the last time and soon died.

James Gray, a nurse in the City Hospital, who used the carbolic acid as a shampoo for Smith, was arrested. Gray declares he was ordered to pour tincture of larkspur over Smith, and that the sixteen-ounce bottle that contained the carbolic acid was labeled "Tincture of larkspur."

GRIEVANCE OF MERCHANTS.

Porto Rican Importers Want Certain Customs Duties Refunded.

Merchants of Porto Rico, through attorneys in this city, have appealed to the War Department to refund duties on certain shipments of flour, rice, codfish, pork, and bacon imported into Porto Rico and held by them in stock on October 31, the date of the department's order placing such articles on the free list. The promulgation of the free list was to relieve the distress in the island due to the hurricane. In their communication to the department the attorneys for the Porto Rican merchants called particular attention to the fact that they were given no warning of the intention of the War Department. They claimed that the repeal of the duties was without any notice whatever, and rendered their goods unsaleable even at cost. The department is reminded that repeated assurances had been given merchants that there would be no modifications in the tariff schedule for Porto Rico until Congress convened, which led the merchants to import from this country sufficient quantities of goods to meet the demands of their trade until Congress should take action. A former appeal to the department met with the response that the department's action was due to the extreme exigency of the situation, which demanded immediate relief of the inhabitants of the island, and that the department believed its decision to make such tariff changes immediately effective was warranted by the overruling necessities presented by the conditions existing in Porto Rico. Secretary Root declined to grant any refund duties, but another letter has been filed by the merchants, which has been referred to Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn for action. Officials of the War Department say that the duties will not be refunded.

TARIFF ON ELECTRICITY

The Treasury Officials Greatly Perplexed Over a New Problem.

A Decision in the Case to Be Rendered by Assistant Secretary Spaulding at an Early Date—An Appeal to Be Taken No Matter How He Decides—Niagara Falls Concerned.

A most interesting question is before O. L. Spaulding, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, for decision. The case is one where a decision is asked as to whether electricity conducted across the border at Niagara Falls, or any other border point between the United States and Canada, is dutiable. The question is one of the very greatest importance, and it is highly probable that, no matter in which way the Assistant Secretary decides, it will be appealed to the Secretary for his ruling, and no doubt finally will find its way into the highest court of the country. Both Canada and the United States will be much interested in the final outcome.

In the decision of this question it will be necessary for the department to decide whether or not electricity is an "article." Of course, it is reasonable to suppose that electricity from either side of the river at Niagara is transmitted to the other side, would come into competition with the current on that side, especially if there are rival companies. Some years ago the Collector of Customs at Buffalo attempted to levy a tax on natural gas brought through pipes from the Canadian natural gas fields, but the Treasury Department ruled that natural gas was not an "article" within the meaning of the law. Since then another collector has started to collect tax on natural gas, but the Treasury Department ordered him to desist.

However, should the Treasury Department decide that rightfully a duty should be paid on electricity, it is probable that the Canadian side at Niagara would suffer more than the New York side, for it is reasonable to suppose that the Dominion Government will assume about the same position as the United States on the subject. Thus, while it might lead to an opposition company starting business at Niagara Falls, Ont., on the strength that it could induce capital to invest owing to freedom from competition with the great plant at Niagara Falls, N. Y., there is in reality less demand for electric current on the Canadian side, and any plant there would not have the support, in case of accident, of the New York plants.

The development on the New York side at the Falls has now reached such extensive lines that there is little probability of any serious interruption to the entire installation, and therefore there is likely to be little demand for assistance from the Canadian side. Buffalo has been hopeful that in time it could boast of being connected to a power installation on the Canadian side as well as on the New York side, and a decision that duty should be levied on electricity might destroy some of Buffalo's hopes. Still, there is an ample supply of electricity at Niagara Falls, N. Y., for all western New York.

AN APPEAL TO CONGRESS.

Cumberland Will Seek National Aid Against Potomac Pollution.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Jan. 7.—The question how to abate the pollution of the Potomac River, the source of Cumberland's water supply, is the all-absorbing topic here. Congressman Pearre, who is now here on court business, says he has prepared a bill looking to the purification of the Potomac, which he will introduce in a few days. Colonel Pearre is rather averse to commissions, whose work is necessarily slow, and his bill will apply the desired remedy at once. He says there is no trouble about national intervention, as the matter concerns more than one State.

Cows Wearing Glasses.

(From Collier's Weekly.)

Cattle with spectacles are to be seen on the Russian steppes. The steppes are covered with snow more than six months of the year. The cows subsist on the tufts of grass which crop above the snow, and the rays of the sun on the snow are so dazzling as to cause blindness. To obviate this calamity, it occurred to a kind-hearted man to protect the cows' eyes in the same way as those of human beings, and he manufactured smoke-colored spectacles which could be safely worn by cattle. These spectacles were a great success, and are now worn by upward of 40,000 head of cattle, who no longer suffer from the snow blindness which once caused such suffering among them.